



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
GREAT LAKES NATIONAL PROGRAM OFFICE  
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD  
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590**

March 4, 2008

Dear Great Lakes Colleague:

I am pleased to invite you to join us in the *Great Lakes 2008 Earth Day Challenge*. The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency is striving to mobilize hundreds of thousands of citizens in the Great Lakes basin to connect with their environment this April by helping address the environmental impact of electronic wastes and unwanted medicines. The Challenge is meant to galvanize public participation in collection events for those wastes so that together we can safely recycle one million pounds of electronic waste and dispose of one million pills of unwanted medicines responsibly.

I am asking you to become a partner with us in spreading the news about planned collection events during Earth Week and in creating new ones. We need your help both in identifying events to be a part of the Challenge and in getting the word out to the public about these events. If your organization wishes to partner with us, please fill out the web-based partners form you can find at our Earth Day Challenge Web Site: [www.epa.gov/greatlakes/earthday2008](http://www.epa.gov/greatlakes/earthday2008).

Our partner, Earth 911, is developing an online clearinghouse that will list collection events in the basin to be held April 19-27, 2008, to show people where they can participate near their homes. If your organization is planning a collection event, we invite you to list it by filling out the registration form that can be accessed from the Challenge Web Site.

In addition, if your organization does not have a collection event planned, but would like to do so, we can provide technical assistance and information to help you set up your event. There will also be an opportunity for Challenge partners to share the results of these collection events to gauge whether the Challenge goal as a whole has been met.

If you have any questions, please call our toll-free Earth Day Challenge Hotline at 866-575-8543.

I sincerely hope you can join us in this exciting project. Let's show that together, we can make a difference for the Great Lakes!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary A. Gade".

Mary A. Gade  
Great Lakes National Program Manager

Enclosure